

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 530

By Herron

A RESOLUTION recognizing the Greenfield 12 and Under
Baseball All-Stars for winning the Cal Ripken
State Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those exemplary athletes and athletic teams who have attained the ultimate laurel in sporting competition, namely a state championship; and

WHEREAS, the Greenfield 12 and Under Baseball All-Stars have persevered through inclement weather, unfamiliar playing conditions, and tough competition to claim the Cal Ripken State Championship in their age division; and

WHEREAS, before cruising through the Cal Ripken State Tournament, the Greenfield 12 and Under Baseball All-Star Team went undefeated in three qualifying tournaments – the Milan Invitational Tournament, the District Tournament, and the Area Tournament; and

WHEREAS, crushing Medina (10-0), Martin (9-0), Milan (18-1), and Martin (7-3), the Greenfield All-Stars outscored their opponents by a total of 44-4 to claim the Milan Invitational Tournament Championship; and

WHEREAS, with stifling pitching and blanketing defense, the Greenfield All-Stars then romped through the District Tournament, beating Medina (13-0) and Trezevant (10-0 and 23-0); and

WHEREAS, continuing their magnificent display of athletic prowess, the Greenfield All-Stars captured yet another tournament title by defeating Lake County (13-0) and Newbern (5-4 and 9-3) in the Area Tournament before advancing to the State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2005, the Greenfield All-Stars faced the undefeated Smokey Mountain team from Johnson City in a double-elimination format for the Cal Ripken 12 and Under State Baseball Championship; and

WHEREAS, after suffering a heartbreaking loss in the first round of the state tourney, the Greenfield All-Stars rebounded to sweep through the losers' bracket with consecutive victories over Newbern (12-1), Trenton (5-1), Warren County (10-3), and Franklin (5-4), thus avenging their sole loss; and

WHEREAS, in their first tilt with the Smokey Mountain squad, Greenfield utilized the pitching magic of dynamic duo Heath Crouse and Dalton Potts to hold their opponents to only 2 runs on 10 hits; the Greenfield offense lambasted the East Tennessee team's pitching to claim a 14-2 victory, which saw the imposition of the mercy rule; and

WHEREAS, in the final game for all the marbles, the Greenfield All-Stars were once again dominant; fireballing Logan Hampton and the resilient Dalton Potts allowed only 4 runs on 7 hits, while their teammates rattled their bats early and often to once again "mercy" their opponents in a 15-4 rout; and

WHEREAS, by winning the Cal Ripken State Championship crown, the Greenfield 12 and Under team earned a berth in the Southeast regional tourney in Herdon, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, against stiff competition, the Greenfield All-Stars displayed the utmost talent and character during the Southeast Regional Tournament and defeated the Alabama All-Star team; and

WHEREAS, the Greenfield All-Stars most definitely qualify as a dynasty, as they have now won their third state championship in five years and earned their second trip in three years to the Southeast regional tournament; and

WHEREAS, indeed, the Greenfield All-Stars have grown accustomed to being called champions; they established their winning tradition by laying claim to the Coach Pitch State Championship in 2001, and continued their dominance on the diamond by winning the 2003 10 and Under State Championship and advancing to the Southeast regional tourney; and

WHEREAS, the singularly gifted and disciplined members of this championship squad are: Tyler Jones, Heath Crouse, Logan Hampton, Payton Page, Braxton Tucker, Adam Bethel,

Dakota Bills, Jake Lasater, Matthew Fuller, Dalton Potts, Brady Medling, Jacob Johnson, and Graham Perkins; and

WHEREAS, the Greenfield All-Stars benefited greatly from the expertise, hard work, and dedication of coaches Jeff Crouse, Craig Medling, and Randy Potts, who taught these young men many valuable lessons about baseball and about life; and

WHEREAS, the Greenfield All-Stars displayed uncommon talent, determination, and perseverance in their quest for championship laurels, and they should be commended for attaining this lofty goal; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Greenfield All-Stars are hereby honored and congratulated on winning the 2005 Cal Ripken 12 and Under State Baseball Championship. These outstanding young men are worthy ambassadors of the Volunteer State, and we wish them and their coaches much continued success in their future endeavors, both on and off the baseball diamond.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.